



2003 Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program

Program Focus — The Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (FRPP) was created to protect prime or unique farmland or statewide and locally important soils or historic and archaeological resources on farm and ranchland from conversion to non-agricultural uses.

FRPP provides matching funds, up to 50 percent of the fair market easement value, to help purchase development rights to keep productive farm and ranchland in agricultural uses.

Indiana is using the FRPP to protect 652 acres of prime farmland from conversion to non-agricultural uses.

Indiana Summary

Overview

The goal of the Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (FRPP), formerly the Farmland Protection Program, is to protect prime or unique farmland or statewide and locally important soils or historic and archaeological resources on farm and ranch land from conversion to non-agricultural uses.

The Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program provides matching funds to help local governments, organizations and other entities buy development rights and keep productive farm and ranchland in agricultural uses. USDA provides up to 50 percent of the fair market easement value.

To qualify, farmland must: be part of a pending offer from a State, tribe, or local farmland protection program; be privately owned; be large enough to sustain agricultural production; be accessible to markets for what the land produces; have adequate infrastructure and agricultural support services; and have surrounding parcels of land that can support long-term agricultural production.

Accomplishments

The Indiana NRCS is in the process of securing easements to protect 652 acres of farmland in two Indiana counties. Working with local sponsoring organizations, the Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program is being used to help local entities buy conservation easements to protect Indiana farmland.

Program Benefits

The FRPP provides the financial assistance that local governments and organizations need to preserve irreplaceable farmland as working agricultural land for future generations. These working farms maintain the legacy of our agricultural heritage, help keep taxes down, and are often our most productive land.

State Contact

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Indiana FRPP Dollars and Contracts

Fiscal Year 2002 and 2003		
Congressional Districts	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts
District 1	-	-
District 2	-	-
District 3	901,200.00	3
District 4	-	-
District 5	-	-
District 6	-	-
District 7	-	-
District 8	98,718.00	1
District 9	-	-
State Totals	999,918.00	4

Based on needs identified in Indiana's FRPP plan, \$1,400,000 could be utilized in FY-2004.

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